

Briarwood

Presbyterian Church, PCA



For God's glory

We are committed to equipping

Christians to worship God

and to reach Birmingham

to reach the world for Christ



Celebration of Worship

RESURRECTION SABBATH

MORNING SERVICES OF DIVINE WORSHIP – April 4, 2021

Worship Leaders

Dr. Harry L. Reeder III, Pastor/Teacherz

Mr. Bruce Stallings, Executive Pastor

Rev. Daniel Cason, Pianist

Dr. John Haines, Worship Pastor

Mr. Hunter Goff, Organist

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

For where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I among them. Matthew 18:20

The Call to Worship and Preparation from the Psalms

Psalm 16: 10-11

[All:] For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

The Prelude and Time of Meditation and Confession

“Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death” (Getty)

[Solo:]

What is our hope in life and death? Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence? That our souls to him belong.

Who holds our days within his hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.

[All:] [Chorus:]

O sing hallelujah! Our hope springs eternal;

O sing hallelujah! Now and ever we confess

Christ our hope in life and death.

What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is good.

Where is his grace and goodness known? In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise? Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh

Unto the shore, the rock of Christ? (Chorus x2)

Now and ever we confess Christ our hope in life and death.

Life-giving God, quicken me to call upon Your Name, for my mind is ignorant, my thoughts vagrant, my affections earthly, my heart unbelieving and only Your Spirit can help my infirmities. I approach You as Father and Friend, my portion forever, my exceeding joy, my strength of heart. I believe in You as the God of nature, the ordainer of providence, the sender of Jesus, my Savior. My guilty fears discourage an approach to You, but I praise You for the blessed news that Jesus reconciles me to You. adapted from *The Valley of Vision*

The Invocation

The Gospel Word of Salvation

*The Greeting of Grace and Peace

*The Hymn of Resurrection

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today” (Rutter)

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels sa: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once He all doth save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia! Christ hath opened Paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia! Foll’wing our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Him, like Him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!

*The Confession of Truth

The Apostles’ Creed

[Leader:] *Christians, what do you believe?*

[All:] I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. *universal

THE PETITIONING OF GOD’S PROVIDENCE

The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous. Proverbs 15:29

The Pastoral Prayer of Intercession

THE ADORATION OF GOD’S GLORY

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! Psalm 98:1a

The Presentation and Consecration of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. II Corinthians 9:7

The Musical Offering of Worship

“Yahweh!” (Stefanovich)

Briarwood Adult Choir, Ensemble and Orchestra

Yahweh, Jesus is coming In a manger, our Lord is coming.

Yahweh, Jesus is coming, Born in Bethlehem, born in Bethlehem.

Yahweh, Jesus is teaching In the temple, our Lord is teaching.

Yahweh, Jesus is teaching, No one speaks like Him, no one speaks like Him.

Hosanna! He comes in the form of a man; Jehovah, the great God of Abraham.

He lived just to die for our sins, Yahweh, for we sing:

Yahweh, Jesus is praying In the garden, our Lord is praying.

Yahweh, Jesus is praying: “Let this pass from me, let this pass from me.”

Yahweh, Jesus is dying On the cross there, our Lord is dying.

Yahweh, Jesus is dying, Dying for our sins, dying for our sins.

Yahweh, Jesus is buried In a rich man’s tomb, He is buried.

Yahweh, Jesus is buried But He will not stay; no, He will not stay.

Yahweh, Jesus is buried In a rich man’s tomb, He is buried.

Yahweh, Jesus is buried But He will not stay; no, He will not stay.

Yahweh, Jesus is rising, Our Lord is rising From the grave there, Our Lord is rising.

Yahweh, Jesus is rising Now He lives again. Yes, He lives again!

*Hosanna! He comes in the form of a man; Jehovah, the great God of Abraham.
He lived just to die for our sins. He rose from the grave and lives again.
He rose from the grave, He lives again. He arose, He arose, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!
He lives again, Our Lord lives again!*

***The Singing of Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs**

“Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed” (Cash/Getty)

[Praise Team:]

*How can it be, the One who died Has born our sin through sacrifice,
To conquer every sting of death? Sing, sing hallelujah!*

[All:]

*For joy awakes as dawning light, When Christ’s disciples lift their eyes.
Alive He stands, their Friend and King! Christ, Christ, He is risen.*

[Chorus:]

*Christ is risen, He is risen indeed! Oh, sing hallelujah.
Join the chorus, sing with the redeemed, “Christ is risen, He is risen indeed.”*

*The power that raised Him from the grave Now works in us to pow’rfully save.
He frees our hearts to live His grace; Go tell of His goodness! (Chorus x2)*

[Leader:] He is risen! He’s alive, [All:] He’s alive,

[Leader:] He’s alive! [All:] He’s alive, Heaven’s gates are opened wide!

[Leader:] He’s alive! [All:] He’s alive,

[Leader:] He’s alive! [All:] He’s alive, now in Heaven glorified! (Repeat)

THE PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD

And they taught in Judah, having the Book of the Law of the LORD with them. II Chronicles 17:9a

***The Prayer of Illumination**

***†The New Testament Reading**

John 20:1-18

The Exposition of God’s Word

Pastor Reeder

*III. Holy Week in Biblical Perspective
Eight Days of Grace to Glory
“The Crowded Empty Tomb”
John 20:1-18*

THE CONSECRATION OF GOD’S PEOPLE

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I Corinthians 1:3

***The Pastoral Benediction**

***The Congregational Affirmation**

“The Day of Resurrection” Hymn 226 v. 1

*The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.*

The Postlude

“Easter Song” (Herring)

** The congregation is requested to stand, if able.*

The 8:00 and 11:00 Sunday morning services are broadcast live on WLJR 88.5 FM, and are also available online at briarwood.org/livetv. Watch the recording anytime at briarwood.org/archivetv.

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Scripture quotations are from the Holy Bible, English Standard Version.

Prayers *and* Praises

Praise the Lord! *“I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of Life.”* John 8:12

Pray for those who do not know our Risen Savior during this time we celebrate His resurrection. Ask the Lord to give you wisdom and courage to help lead those in your life to Him.

Pray for the Hope Health Center’s logistics of being able to vaccinate patients while at the same time, continue their regular patient visits and keeping everyone socially distanced. Many of the patients are experiencing anxiety and depression from all the isolation caused by the pandemic. Pray for the patients that God brings to them. *(The flag of Alabama is featured in today’s worship service.)*

“Continue steadfastly in prayer...” Colossians 4:2a

Opportunities *for* Ministry *and* Growth

Please consider giving to the Disaster Relief Fund that is now open to assist those who have experienced storm damage. If you would like to assist in work projects, contact Chris Thompson at cthompson@briarwood.org or call 205-776-5239.

With the recent storms in our area, our Community Food Drive is now also assisting those who have experienced storm losses. Non-perishable donations can be placed in the trailer at Parking Lot B (near the Altadena House) Sundays from 7:45 a.m.–1:00 p.m. and Monday–Friday from 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. The Mercy Ministry and Christian Service Mission are grateful for your support.

Join Pastor Reeder every Monday–Friday on *Today In Perspective*, his podcast/radio program where he takes 10 minutes to examine current events through the lens of Scripture. You’ll benefit from hearing the biblical answers to today’s issues such as sanctity of life, sexual anarchy, dealing with the “woke” culture, and many more. Listen anytime on iTunes, the BriarwoodPCA App, at briarwood.org/todayinperspective, or on WLJR radio at 5:48 a.m., 1:00, 5:15 and 9:00 p.m. WLJR is found at 88.5 FM.

Our Church Family

Hospitalized: Murdoch McRae, Barbara Pierce, Tony Poelt, John Schoppert, Lana Smith
Our love and sympathy to Glenn Hodge and family on the death of his brother, Sammy Hodge, on Mar. 15.

Announcements

Easter Lily Dedications—Watch for the list of this year’s dedications to come in the mail. Please pickup your lilies after the 5:00 p.m. service Sunday, or on Monday at the church.

Calling all BYG and College Graduating Seniors! To effectively minister and recognize your senior it is critically important that you take a moment to visit the website and fill out the information form by Mon., Apr. 26. High school seniors go to briarwood.org/seniors. College seniors go to briarwood.org/college.

Briarwood continues to provide streaming online of our Sunday morning worship at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. and the evening service at 5:00 p.m. Both morning worship services are available on WLJR-FM 88.5, and you can watch all live services at briarwood.org/livetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook, Roku and AppleTV. Recorded services are available online anytime at briarwood.org/archivetv, on the BriarwoodPCA App, Facebook and Vimeo.

College Monday Night Gatherings at the Barn—Join us at 8:00 p.m. as we look at Gospel Living taught by various teachers.

College Small Group Bible Studies are available. For more information, email Max Bunn at mbunn@briarwood.org or Jenna Viets at jviets@briarwood.org.

The Men’s Saturday morning prayer group is meeting at 7:00 a.m. in the Mountain View Building. Contact Dave Matthews for information at dmatthews@briarwood.org.

If you are interested in infant Baptism in our Sunday morning services, contact Marie Gathings at 205-776-5204 or mgathings@briarwood.org for future available dates. Also if you are interested in a “New Believer” baptism, contact Wendy Long in the Membership Office at 205-776-5208.

A reminder that the Briarwood Christian Bookstore and Church Library are both open on Sunday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Or you may make purchases by calling 205-776-5210, emailing bookstore@briarwood.org, or shopping online by going to briarwood.org/webstore. The Bookstore can either mail your orders to you or provide convenient pickup at the church.

P&R Publishing Offer—Prpbooks.com is seeking Christians who are interested in reviewing our books on Amazon. We are especially interested in seeing our academic titles reviewed. If you are interested in receiving a PDF of one of our recent books to review (prpbooks.com/books/new-releases), for example Vern Poythress’s *The Mystery of the Trinity*, we will be happy to send you a complimentary copy. All we ask is that you write an honest and balanced review, and all we are offering is a PDF of the book. If you are interested, please contact John Hughes (john@prpbooks.com) and let him know what title or titles you are interested in reviewing.

Job opennings:

Church Revitalization, National and Urban Ministries Admin. A talented and detailed leader is needed to manage the administration responsibilities of these important Briarwood Missions Ministries. The candidate for this 29-hour per week position must be a Briarwood church member. Abilities needed include proficient knowledge of Microsoft Office, strong communication skills, event planning, financial record keeping, database management and pastoral support. Send resume or email inquiries to Heather McDougall at hmcdougall@briarwood.org.

Nursery Night Supervisor. Please contact acraig@briarwood.org for more information.

Job opportunities are currently available with several Briarwood ministries. See the listing at briarwood.org/employment with details on the positions as well as how to apply.